



Soil and Water News

Laurens County Soil and
Water Conservation District

Summer 2007

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Events Calendar...

May 13 - Mother's Day

May 22- SWCD Board
Meeting

May 28- Memorial Day

June 17 - Father's Day

June 26 - SWCD Board
Meeting

July 4- Independence Day

Commissioners Corner...

Have you called the office and heard a new voice? We now have a new receptionist. Her name is Janet Kelly. She is a Laurens County native and has been a great help here in the conservation office greeting people, answering phones, and organizing files. Stop by and meet her if you haven't done so.

It seems like this year just got started but it is almost half over. We are baling hay, harvesting gardens, canning and freezing for the winter. The Conservation District is also working on planning for Fall and Winter. We would like to continue with our annual fishing rodeo this Fall, and Dick Coda plans to return this winter to trap beavers. We would like to thank our affiliate members, local businesses and agencies that have supported these activities. Without your support we could not provide these types of services to the citizens of Laurens County.

If anyone is interested in the trapping service, we need to get you signed up in the next few months. We expect a high demand and need to get his scheduled set by November. Call or come by the office to sign up.

Again, thank you for supporting the efforts of the Laurens Soil and Water Conservation District.

Calvin Robertson
Chairman



2007 CONSERVATION MEMBERS

District Board Meetings

The Laurens Soil and Water Conservation District Board meets at 8:30 a.m. on the fourth Tuesday of every month except December at the Clemson Extension Service conference room upstairs. The public is cordially invited to attend. For information call 984-6921, ext. 3.

Affiliate Members \$50+:

Epting Turf and Tractor Inc.
Fleming Tree Farms

Associate Members \$100+:

Plumfield Farm

Conservation Partner \$500+:

Laurens Commission of Public Works

Contributing Members \$75+:

W.K. Brown Timber Corporation

Friends of Conservation \$250+:

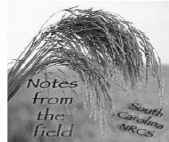
Oak Grove Farm

W & W Logging, LLC

Laurens County Water & Sewer

T & T Farm

Waterloo Hunt Club



Conservation on the Ground...

Natural Resources Conservation Service Events

NRCS Announces Web Soil Survey

Farmers, conservationists, engineering firms, county and state planners, and others now have quick and easy access to the U.S. Department of Agriculture's national soils information. The USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) has launched the Web Soil Survey website,



Web Soil Survey

which will provide secure public access to soils data that contributes to every aspect of public and private land use and development. Currently, NRCS has soils maps and data available online for more than 95 percent of the nation's counties and anticipates having 100 percent in the near future. The site will be updated and maintained online as the single authoritative source of soil survey information. To view the website go to <http://soils.usda.gov/survey>.

Applications Available

Applications for FY 2008 Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) can be filed now.

Please call or stop by the office to discuss eligibility. Conservation practices that may be eligible but not limited to are cross-fencing, watering facilities, pasture and hayland planting.



Enoree River TMDL Implementation Project

In a joint effort to reduce the potential loading rates of fecal coliform into the impaired Enoree River, the Natural Resources Conservation Service and Clemson Extension received a grant through the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control. Bureau of Water Section 319 Grant from the Environmental Protection Agency. The Enoree River is listed on the 303d list for South Carolina. The 303d list is the state's list of impaired watersheds. The 303d list was developed in response to the Clean Water Act of 1972. The pollutant causing impairment for the Enoree River is fecal coliform. Fecal Coliform is a bacteria associated with the feces of warm-blooded animals, whether human, domestic or wild animals. This grant has allowed us to install conservation practices on farms within the Enoree River Watershed, that would reduce the amount of fecal coliform being loaded into the river. Mickey Sutton who has a farm within this watershed boundary, has



installed several conservation practices that work hand in hand to help reduce these bacterial counts. Mr. Sutton has built cross-fences to remove cattle from the water source and has installed a heavy use area that only allows the cattle to access the water in one location rather than the entire stream itself. If you have a similar situation on your farm contact the local NRCS for advice on these and other conservation practices.

LSWCD Happenings

The Ninety-Six Resource Conservation & Development Council. Which is comprised of Abbeville, Edgefield, Greenwood, McCormick, Laurens and Saluda Counties. Each year the council sponsors a Woodland Clinic for



Woodlands Clinic held at Bakers Creek State Park in McCormick County. The Clinic is a competition and career day in which the young people test their skills in such areas as:

- * tree identification
- * forest pest identification
- * timber volume estimation
- * forestry tools equipment identification
- * compass and pacing.



FFA Chapters, 4- H Clubs, and other youth groups within those counties. This year nine teams participated in the

Prizes are awarded to the highest scorers in each field. The team with the highest composite scores are recognized with first, second, and third place awards.

As a sponsor of the Woodlands Clinic we would like to congratulate the 2007 Winners from the following schools in the Ninety Six RC&D Area.



• Saluda	• John de la Howe
• Abbeville High	• Strom Thurmond
• Abbeville Career Center	• Dixie High
• Long Cane Academy	• Calhoun Falls

Strom Thurmond High captured the high scoring team award, with Calhoun Falls High in second and Saluda High in third. The two top competitors were separated by only a single point, with Zack Rearden from Strom Thurmond taking the high score, Montana Peavy from John de la Howe in second, and Angel Henderson from Strom Thurmond taking the third place prize.

NACD Legislative Dinner

The 2007 Legislative Reception and Dinner held at Seawells in Columbia was a success this year and Laurens County was represented by Danny Verdin, Jeff Duncan, Adam Taylor, Mike Pitts and Commissioners Calvin Robertson, Michael Seymour, Pat Garrett, and Stanley Holman. This was an excellent opportunity for anyone interested in natural resource conservation to talk with their legislators.

Our very own Adam Taylor was presented with the Legislator of the Year Award for his dedication to Conservation Districts and Commissioner Michael Seymour was presented with the Presidents Award for his dedication and hard work serving as the National Association of Conservation District (NACD) Secretary.

CONGRATULATIONS !!



LSWCD staff

Commissioners:

Calvin Robertson - Chairman
Stanley Holman - Vice-Chairman
David Coggins - Treasurer
Michael Seymour
Pat Garrett

Associate Commissioners:

Ray Stoddard
Michael Sutton
Don Kennedy
Jeff Thompson

Bill Blakely - Chaplain

District Staff:

Janet Kelly - Receptionist

We are located at 221 A. West Laurens
Street across the street from The Laurens
County Advertiser

**Q: What do you call a cow with two
legs?**

A: Lean Beef

NRCS Staff:

Lisa Good - District Conservationist
Eric Harper - Soil Conservation Technician

DNR Staff:

Ken Forrester - Program Coordinator

**Laurens Soil and Water
Conservation District**

221 A. West Laurens St.
Laurens, SC 29360

Phone: 864-984-6921 ext 3
Fax: 864 984-4033

**Helping People Help
The Land**